

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING ASSISTANT SHERIFF
RICHARD BRESHEARS

HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Assistant Sheriff Richard Breshears. Richard Breshears has had a long and exemplary career in law enforcement that has lasted nearly 35 years.

Mr. Breshears began his career as a Stanislaus County Sheriff in 1970. He soon became an investigator, where he dedicated almost 18 years, rising from the ranks of detective to Lieutenant and working on several high profile cases that garnered national attention. In 1991, he was promoted to Captain and served as Commander of both the Custodial and Operations Divisions. In 1997, he was appointed to the position of assistant Sheriff and continues to command the Operations Division.

Mr. Breshears has not limited his dedication to law enforcement and his community to working hours. He has continuously engaged in, and often led activities that allowed him and the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department to better serve the community. In 1982, he graduated from the FBI academy in Quantico, VA. He has been a member of countless law enforcement associations and organizations over the years. He has dutifully served such organizations as the Stanislaus County Advisory Board on Substance Abuse, the U.S. Attorney's Law Enforcement Executive Council, and as President of the Stanislaus County Police Activities League for the past eight years.

Richard Breshears' selfless service to his community has not gone unnoticed. His community has bestowed upon him such honors as the "Assyrian Community Presidential Award," the California Attorney General's "Certificate of Commendation for Meritorious Service," and the Stanislaus Sheriff Department's "Medal of Merit" for exceptional service.

It is my honor and privilege to join the community in recognizing Richard Breshears for his lengthy, dedicated service to his community. Throughout his career, he has distinguished himself as a leader and mentor. I am delighted to recognize his service and his retirement as I wish him the very best in the years to come.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2004

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under

consideration the bill (H.R. 4613) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes:

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to thank the Chairmen and Ranking Members of the Subcommittee and the Committee for their excellent work in crafting a bipartisan bill that will provide our troops with the tools they need to continue their outstanding service to our country.

Our troops have done an amazing job under very difficult circumstances in Iraq and Afghanistan. I fear that their job will only get tougher in the weeks and months ahead, but this bill will help ensure that our troops will be prepared for whatever they may face in Iraq and in the war on terror.

I am especially grateful to my colleagues Mr. MURTHA and Mr. LEWIS for including in the report accompanying this bill important language that calls for a comprehensive study of mental health services available to service members and their families both during and after deployment to combat theaters.

Despite a growing awareness of the importance of mental health issues, there remains too much of a stigma associated with mental health care. The fact is that the pressures of war and lengthy separation from friends and family can take their toll on our soldiers, and we ought to do more to help our brave soldiers and their families.

Mr. Speaker, I have seen this first-hand. The 439th Quartermaster Company is an Army reserve unit based in New Haven. They have performed admirably well in setting up fuel depots in southern Iraq on the road from Kuwait to Baghdad. But they have been in the Iraqi theater for 14 months now, and will be there for at least a few months more. I have been working with Yale University's Child Study Center to make sure the families of this great unit have access to mental health services. But the military ought to do more to help.

I might add that our commitment to our troops should not stop when they return from the field. Experience has taught us that for service members and their families, the difficulties associated with deployment do not always cease when the service member returns. In the case of Reserve and National Guard troops, who often live far from a military installation, it is especially important that top-quality mental health services are available to them to ease the transition from deployment to civilian life.

This benchmark study will give us some indications about how we can overcome barriers to care, and how we can do better by our soldiers, sailors and marines. It is my hope that the Congress will use this study as a starting point to better fund mental health services for military personnel and their families, and I look forward to working with my colleagues on this issue.

So again I thank Chairman YOUNG, Chairman LEWIS, Mr. OBEY and Mr. MURTHA for taking this issue so seriously and including my amendment.

HONORING MERLE McDOUGALD
"DOUG" WERNER

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember Merle McDougald Werner, a correspondent who filed one of the first reports of the D-Day invasion in 1944. Mr. Werner died May 19, 2004 at his home in Falls Church, VA at the age of ninety-one.

Mr. Werner was born January 28, 1913, in Bladen, Nebraska. He attended the University of Nebraska and received a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Missouri in 1934. During the years 1934 to 1937, Mr. Werner worked for several newspapers in Nebraska and Wyoming when he became employed with the United Press, a precursor of United Press International located in Des Moines. In 1941, Mr. Werner transferred to United Press' Washington bureau and was appointed as a war correspondent based in London where he worked with Walter Cronkite.

Surrounded by gunfire and deep cold waters, Werner stepped onto Utah Beach four hours after the beginning of the attack in which 156,000 Allied troops took part. He pulled out his typewriter and began an account of the day from a foxhole that was dug for his protection. Mr. Werner's account became one of the first of the invasion to reach Americans in the states.

During World War II, Werner also covered the German bombing of London, the liberation Paris in August 1944, the U.S. occupation of Berlin in 1945 and the Potsdam Conference.

Additionally, Mr. Werner's recollections of his D-Day experiences are on display in a current online issue of the Newseum, a museum dedicated to journalism. He is also believed to be the last surviving journalist of those who accompanied the invasion forces.

Mr. Werner was viewed as a calm and stoic man who considered himself to be very fortunate to have not only survived the war, but also to have participated in covering the biggest news event of his generation.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to express my gratitude to Merle McDougald Werner for his service to his country. I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding Mr. Werner's past accomplishments and remembering him for his dedication to his country and fellow Americans.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE
OF BLUES MUSIC

SPEECH OF

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2004

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the importance of Blues

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

music in the Memphis region, across Tennessee, and to people the world over.

The Blues is a historic treasure that must be preserved and studied for posterity. The Blues, created to express the hardship and tough times faced by many in the Delta region, have comforted millions, brought diverse communities of people together, and created a uniquely American tradition.

Almost all the music we know and love today—including jazz, country, even some classical—has been influenced by the Blues. America's musical heritage cannot be understood without the Blues, and Rock and Roll as we know it wouldn't exist.

Memphis has been a wellspring of musical creativity since the first Mississippi Delta bluesmen started drifting north. When the great W.C. Handy arrived on Beale Street from the Delta in 1908, he brought along this magical new genre. Memphis legends like W.C. Handy and B.B. King are just a few among the many legends of Blues music in the United States who should be recognized.

As Co-Chairman of the House Songwriters Caucus and a Tennessean, I am proud to help represent one of America's true music capitals.

Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in support of H. Con. Res. 13.

TRIBUTE TO BRISTOL-MYERS SQUIBB COMPANY

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to the Bristol-Myers Squibb Company's Syracuse, New York facility, which will receive the 2004 Presidential Green Chemistry Challenge Award in the alternative synthetic pathways category presented by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Bristol-Myers Squibb earned this great honor through the development of an environmentally friendly synthesis for the cancer drug Taxol®. The EPA's Presidential Green Chemistry Challenge Program has been promoting pollution prevention through voluntary partnership with the chemical community since 1996. The annual awards recognize outstanding accomplishments in the development of chemical technologies that incorporate the principles of green chemistry into chemical design, manufacture, and use. To date winning technologies have eliminated over 460 million pounds of chemical and solvent pollutants, saved over 440 million gallons of water, and eliminated over 170 million pounds of atmospheric carbon dioxide emissions.

I express my congratulations to the men and women of the Bristol-Myers Squibb Company in Syracuse for receiving such an outstanding honor. Bristol-Myers Squibb has truly shown itself to be a leader in environmental technology innovation.

POPULATION CONNECTION'S 2004 "KID-FRIENDLY CITIES REPORT CARD"

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, last week Population Connection released its 2004 Kid-Friendly Cities Report Card. This report rates cities in terms of the quality of life they provide for children by using data in sixteen comprehensive areas including health care, education, and community.

I am proud that Madison, my hometown, ranked third among large cities in America in terms of providing a high quality of life for children. We scored very highly in the education and community categories. The people of Madison deserve to feel proud of the quality of life we provide for the children in our city.

There is much good news for Madison in this report, but there's much more to be done. We must remember that far too many children in our city and, indeed, across America are being left behind. I applaud Population Connection for their efforts in working hard to achieve the day that every city is kid-friendly, the day that every kid can look forward to a future that offers unlimited opportunity. This report from Population Connection shows us the map to get there. And while cities and states can do a lot on their own, many of the problems that young people face are national problems that require national solutions.

The first step is to get serious about reducing teen pregnancy. In Madison, like in much of America, this is one of the most significant challenges we face. We should act to ensure that not one more federal penny is spent on ineffective programs, like "abstinence-only" programs that leave kids simply uninformed at best and woefully ill-equipped for real-life decision-making at worst. Such programs have been shown to have little to no impact on the likelihood that young people will be sexually active, but they do reduce the chance that young people will use contraceptives when they do have sex, leading to unintended pregnancy and exposure to sexually transmitted infections. Let's put our money into more effective, more worthy programs that can be shown to have a real impact on the lives of young people.

Also, we should act to ensure that every woman, every mother, has access to affordable reproductive health care, family planning and effective contraceptives. Too often, contraceptives are excluded from prescription drug coverage in health insurance plans. Federal funding for family planning for low-income Americans has fallen nearly 60 percent in real dollars over the past two decades, leaving fully half the women who need subsidized family planning aid without access to services. Family planning gives mothers the ability to properly space their births. It makes it more likely that they will receive pre-natal care, and it helps to ensure that every pregnancy is planned and every child is wanted. These programs are worthy of increased investment. The return is enormous. In fact, research has shown that every dollar of public money invested in family planning and reproductive health care saves more than four dollars in future costs.

I urge my colleagues in the United States Congress to take the funds that the president has proposed for failed abstinence-only programs and use it to double the funding for the Title X family planning program. This program has a long history of success in providing basic reproductive health care, family planning information and contraceptives to low-income Americans. We must always remember one basic fact: healthy mothers and healthy children go hand in hand.

We should all be grateful to Population Connection for providing us with this information that can help guide the policies we adopt. Now that they've provided the information, we in Congress must act to adopt policies that will bring us quickly to the day that such a report is unnecessary . . . the day when every city gets an "A".

PROTECT PERSONAL PRIVACY BY NOTIFYING CONSUMERS OF THE PRESENCE OF TRACKING DEVICES IN EVERYDAY ITEMS

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing privacy legislation in response to the growing use of technology known as "radio frequency identification," or RFID, that businesses are beginning to use as a means of tracking shipments of goods.

RFID chips, which can be embedded by manufacturers in clothing or other products, transmit unique identification data to a receiver so that a merchant can track the movement or presence of specific goods, such as to verify that a container has a complete order of items inside without opening it. It makes good business sense to keep track of inventory, and RFID offers an easier, more efficient way for many companies to do so.

However, in an age in which the advent of new technology is often accompanied by a loss of control over one's personal information or privacy, consumers should be made aware when an item that they have purchased contains technology that potentially allows for their movements or purchase history to be tracked. Furthermore, a person that so desires should be able to have the tracking chip disabled or removed.

Presently, RFID chips come in all shapes and sizes, with some the size of a grain of rice or smaller. Many of these chips are only able to transmit to a receiver in close proximity, and do nothing more than signal the presence of a specific item of clothing or other retail product. As technology advances, it will be easier for such technology to be linked to the individual's personal information, such as the purchaser's name, address, transaction history, and so forth. In addition, the distances over which RFID chips could transmit to a receiver will undoubtedly increase, enabling the tracking of RFID-tagged goods far from the point of purchase.

My legislation would require the Federal Trade Commission to craft rules to ensure that businesses could not sell products with RFID devices unless the product carries a warning label and the person purchasing the item is provided with the option of having the RFID

device removed or permanently disabled at the time of purchase. This is a common sense solution would allow businesses to continue to utilize this technology while at the same time it would grant consumers the ability to protect their privacy.

Although I recognize that time is running out in the present session of Congress, it is important that this issue be raised. Congress should act to give our constituents the opportunity to have these tracking devices removed or disabled on articles they purchase, and I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this legislation.

TROPICAL FOREST CONSERVATION ACT REAUTHORIZATION

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce that I am joined by TOM LANTOS and 28 of our colleagues in introducing a bill to reauthorize the Tropical Forest Conservation Act (TFCA) through FY 2007. This bipartisan conservation incentive program helps to protect the world's most valuable tropical forests through "debt-for-nature" mechanisms.

This bipartisan reauthorization we are introducing today was developed with the Bush Administration, the Nature Conservancy, the World Wildlife Fund, Conservation International, and the Wildlife Conservation Society. The Administration and these highly respected environmental organizations are to be commended for all of their excellent work on the TFCA and this bill.

In the 105th Congress I, along with our former colleagues Lee Hamilton and John Kasich, introduced the legislation that established the TFCA. It was overwhelmingly approved and enacted in 1998. The TFCA was reauthorized in 2001 through the end of this year.

The TFCA is based on the previous Bush Administration's Enterprise for the Americas Initiative (EAI) that allows the President to restructure debt in exchange for conservation efforts in Latin America. The TFCA expands on the EAI and allows protection of threatened tropical forests worldwide. A conservative estimate of 39.5 million acres of tropical forests will be protected by TFCA agreements since its enactment in 1998.

The United States has a significant national interest in protecting tropical forests in developing countries. Tropical forests provide a wide range of benefits. They harbor 50–90 percent of the earth's terrestrial biodiversity. They act as "carbon sinks," absorbing massive quantities of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, thereby reducing greenhouse gases. They regulate rainfall on which agriculture and coastal resources depend, and they are of great importance to regional and global climate. Furthermore, tropical forests are breeding grounds for new medicines. Twenty-five percent of prescription drugs come from tropical forests. The United States National Cancer Institute has identified over 3000 plants that are active against cancer. Seventy percent of them can be found in rainforests.

Regrettably, tropical forests are rapidly disappearing. It is estimated that 30 million acres (an area larger than the State of Pennsyl-

vania) are lost each year. The heavy debt burden of many countries is a contributing factor because they must resort to exploitation of their natural resources (particularly the extraction of timber, oil, and precious metals) to generate revenue to service their external debt. At the same time, poor governments tend to have few resources available to set aside and protect tropical forests. The TFCA addresses these economic pressures by authorizing the President to allow eligible countries to engage in debt swaps, buybacks or reduction/restructuring in exchange for protecting threatened tropical forests on a sustained basis.

The debt for nature mechanisms in the TFCA have proven to be an effective, market-oriented means to leverage scarce funds available for international conservation. The host country places an amount in its tropical forest fund that typically exceeds the cost to the U.S. government of the debt reduction agreement. Furthermore, because these tropical forest funds have integrity and are broadly supported within the host country, conservation organizations are interested in placing their own money in these tropical forest funds producing additional leverage of Federal conservation dollars.

Seven TFCA agreements have been concluded to date: Bangladesh, El Salvador, Belize, Peru, the Philippines, Panama and Colombia. These agreements have generated more than \$70 million in long-term income commitments for tropical forest conservation. Private donors have contributed more than \$5 million to TFCA swaps, leveraging the U.S. government funds. Active deals are currently being negotiated with Jamaica and Sri Lanka. Several other countries have expressed interest in the program including Guatemala, Ecuador, Paraguay, St. Vincent, Botswana, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, India, Indonesia, Brazil, and Kenya.

This bill will improve the TFCA and reauthorize it at \$20 million in FY 2005, which is included in the President's budget request; \$25 million in FY 2006; and \$30 million in FY 2007.

The Tropical Forest Conservation Act is an excellent program that is working well and worthy of reauthorization. I urge all members to support this important, market-oriented approach to conserving the world's most threatened tropical forests.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION PROHIBITING EXTRAORDINARY RENDITION

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, the prison abuses at Abu Ghraib were a national disgrace and have rightly been the subject of anger and condemnation. But another torture practice continues to go on without any public attention. Under the name "extraordinary rendition", the CIA reportedly sends terrorism suspects, sometimes on the flimsiest of evidence, to foreign countries that are known to employ torture in prisoner interrogation. This practice is against all U.S. and international law and is a moral outrage, and it must be stopped.

The practice of extraordinary rendition, the extra-judicial removal of people in U.S. custody both domestically and abroad to foreign governments that are known to use torture, has received little attention because of the degree of secrecy with which it occurs. Attention was drawn to the practice in September 2002 when Maher Arar, a Canadian citizen, was seized while in transit to Canada through JFK airport, and sent to Jordan and later Syria at the request of the CIA. While in Syria, Arar was tortured and held in a dark, 3-by-6-foot cell for nearly a year. He was ultimately released and detailed his story to the media upon his return to Canada.

Although the more recent numbers have not been made public, outgoing CIA director George Tenet testified to the 9/11 Commission in October 2002 that over 70 people had been subject to rendition before September 11, 2001. Human rights organizations including Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, the Center for Constitutional Rights and the ACLU have detailed numerous other cases and are pursuing litigation in some of them. On June 21, the Canadian government launched an investigation into Arar's case.

My bill directs the State Department to compile a list of countries that commonly practice torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment during detention and interrogation, and prohibits rendition to any nation on this list, unless the Secretary of State certifies that the nation has made significant progress in human rights. It also specifies that written or verbal assurances from a foreign government that a person will not be tortured are not sufficient basis to override this prohibition. The bill explicitly permits legal, treaty-based extradition, in which suspects have the right to appeal in a U.S. court to block the proposed transfer based on the likelihood that they would be subjected to torture or other inhumane treatment.

Extraordinary rendition is outsourcing torture, and it is morally repugnant to allow such a practice to continue. President Bush has asserted that 'the values of this country are such that torture is not a part of our soul and our being.' The legislation I am introducing today is designed to ensure that we not only ban torture conducted by our own forces but we also stop the practice of contracting out torture to other nations. Torture enabled by extraordinary rendition is outrageous and must be stopped.

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEDICATION OF THE UKRAINIAN MONUMENT TO TARAS SHEVCHENKO

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, June 26, 2004, the Ukrainian-American community will celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Taras Shevchenko monument in Washington, DC. The monument inspired and united Ukrainians to speak about the cruelty and injustice of the former Soviet Union and attracted international support. Since independence, Ukraine has made significant progress in its transition to a democratic society.

Taras Shevchenko continues to serve as a source of inspiration to Ukrainians almost 200 years after his untimely demise. Born into serfdom, as a child, Shevchenko excelled in painting even though he received no formal training. His talent eventually attracted the attention of the best artists, who bought Shevchenko's freedom. A brilliant artist, Shevchenko turned out to be an even more talented poet, who through his works gave strength and hope to millions of freedom fighters. The intensity of his words have resonated in the hearts of many, igniting the fire of freedom and inspiring a continued struggle for liberation. He led not just by his word, but by personal example as well. Throughout his life, Shevchenko organized and participated in societies promoting the liberation of Ukraine from the Russian Empire, which cost him his freedom on several occasions and ultimately cost him his life. Still his legacy endures and on this day we celebrate Shevchenko's great spirit of love for Ukraine, freedom and equality.

As a longtime supporter of the Ukrainian American community, I welcome the community's efforts to unite and stand strong on the issues that concern it in the United States and Ukraine. More than ever Ukraine needs a strong, unified voice in the United States to highlight Ukraine's achievements and evaluate its current policies. I am glad to see that Ukrainian Americans remain active in political and civic life in the United States and continue to cooperate with the governments of the United States and Ukraine.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 4658,
SERVICEMEMBERS LEGAL PROTECTION ACT OF 2004

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce H.R. 4658, the Servicemembers Legal Protection Act of 2004, legislation to further strengthen the legal and financial rights of military servicemembers, particularly those called up to active duty in Iraq, Afghanistan and other duty stations around the world. This legislation would amend a prior law I sponsored, that President Bush signed last year, the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, Public Law 108-189.

Mr. Speaker, this morning I chaired a hearing of the Veterans' Affairs Committee to examine how well the federal statutes protecting our servicemembers rights were being enforced. Testifying before the Committee were several servicemembers and family members with personal experiences in which their rights were not properly protected under existing laws.

One witness, Ms. Tammy Kimmel whose husband served in the Army at Fort Hood in Texas, told the Committee that when her husband was ordered to a new duty location, her landlord refused to release her from their joint housing lease as required by law. The landlord claimed that the law required the servicemember to be released, but not the spouse.

The legislation I am introducing today would help prevent such misinterpretations as well as strengthen and expand several existing legal and financial protections.

Mr. Speaker, with more than 150,000 Guard and reserve members activated in the continuing war on terrorism, we must ensure that the laws protecting their rights are fully and faithfully executed and enforced. Congress approved the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act last year precisely because of perceived ambiguities and weaknesses in longstanding federal statutes covering military personnel called to active duty or redeployed to new duty locations.

Regrettably, despite sixty years of federal case law, culminating with the passage last year of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, there are still some individuals, businesses, and organizations who cynically refuse to provide all the reliefs required by statute.

We will neither tolerate outright violations nor attempts to distort the clear purposes of the laws Congress has enacted. The evidence from today's hearing is overwhelming and the intention of the law is clear. Those men and women who put their lives on hold and on the line must not suffer economic or legal harm that results from their military service. This Committee and this Congress will continue to do all that can be done to protect the legal and financial rights of all of our servicemembers, whether they are active duty, reserve or Guard.

As introduced, H.R. 4658, the Servicemembers Legal Protection Act, would:

Strengthen the lease termination protections for dependants of servicemembers relocating per military orders;

Expand the definition of court and administrative judgments and rulings covered by the law;

Require that waivers of their rights by servicemembers must be duly executed in separate, clearly written documents;

Extend to plaintiffs the same relief granted to defendants in civil court proceedings;

Extend the housing and automobile lease termination relief to servicemembers relocated from states or territories outside the contiguous United States (e.g., Hawaii, Alaska);

Strengthen the leases termination provisions for servicemembers affected by individual deployments;

Prevent double taxation of servicemembers due to differences in state and local excise, use, or other similar taxes.

Mr. Speaker, the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act that passed last year both restated and expanded the Soldiers and Sailors Civil Relief Act first approved in 1940. This federal statute is designed to help ensure that U.S. military personnel are not disadvantaged when they have been called to active duty and are therefore unable to be present at legal proceedings.

Among the most important protections added by the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act last year were automatic 90-day stays for civil and administrative proceedings, protections for servicemembers and their families from housing evictions, the right of servicemembers and their spouses to terminate housing and automobile leases, and protection from repossession of automobiles.

Enactment of the legislation I am introducing today, H.R. 4658, the Servicemembers Legal Protection Act, would provide an additional level of support for all of the brave men and women defending our nation and our freedom around the world. I urge my colleagues to look at this important legislation and lend their support to protecting the legal and financial rights of all of our servicemen and women.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF WAUSEON, OHIO ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR SESQUICENTENNIAL

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to pay tribute to a special in Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. This year, the community of Wauseon, Ohio will celebrate the sesquicentennial of its founding.

Mr. Speaker, the City of Wauseon was officially recorded as a town in 1854 upon the arrival of the New York Central Railroad. The City earns its name from the long heritage of the Maumee Indian tribe. The last council of the Maumee tribe was held with the United States government 16 years before the founding of the City. It was at this council that Chief Wauseon conveyed all Maumee tribe lands in the Northwest Territory to the United States Government.

From its very beginning, Wauseon had a strong connection with the railroad. Its very creation came as a result of the railroad moving to Northwest Ohio. The first settlement in Wauseon came in anticipation of the arrival of the New York Central Railroad. Wauseon contributed to the prosperity of our young nation, the strength of our economy and the birth of our industrial might. Wauseon has a deep understanding and appreciation of their vibrant culture and long history.

Today, we honor the June 26th Heritage Days event in Wauseon, Ohio. This event will mark the 150th anniversary of the founding of the City of Wauseon. The festival will include a Civil War encampment, Native American pow-wow, and music and food from the 1850's. Pioneer life will be on display throughout the celebration.

As the county seat of Fulton County and its largest city, Wauseon embraces their long and significant heritage and will continue to share this with visitors and members of their community. Building a community mindful of the past and ready for the future speaks to the wisdom and dedication of Wauseon's citizens.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to the diligent effort and unwavering spirit of the citizens of Wauseon. I am confident that Wauseon's sesquicentennial will serve as an essential reminder to the past and promise of our great land.

COMMENDING THE PASCO COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Pasco County Sheriff's Office for earning national commendations for its efforts to control crime, make the community safer, and improve the lives of Pasco County residents, many of whom live in my congressional district.

The office, led by Sheriff Bob White, recently became one of the first law enforcement agencies in the country to receive accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), an honor which only about one of every four law enforcement agencies ever earn.

The Sheriff's Office received this accreditation after an exhaustive review of its policies and procedures. The Office began preparing for its assessment in early 2003 by reviewing its readiness for such a formal and comprehensive review. The men and women in its employ scrutinized hundreds of policies and procedures and revised and rewrote those which needed altering to comply with CALEA standards.

The formal assessment for CALEA accreditation then began last summer. CALEA assessors descended on the Sheriff's office to conduct an inspection which lasted four days. They reviewed files, toured the agency, inspected personnel, tested equipment, listened to presentations, and rode-along on patrols. They then recommended the Office, which met or exceeded nearly all of CALEA's standards, receive full accreditation late last year. The Sheriff's Office must continue to comply with these standards and will undergo the same scrutiny every three years to maintain its accreditation.

The CALEA accreditation means that the Pasco County Sheriff's Office has met accepted law enforcement standards in preventing and controlling crime, increased agency effectiveness and efficiency in the delivery of law enforcement services, improved coordination with other law enforcement agencies, and bolstered employee and community confidence in its goals, objectives, policies, and practices.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that the Pasco County Sheriff's Office is one of the most dedicated and professional law enforcement agencies in the state of Florida and around the country. I am both proud and thankful that Sheriff Bob White and his charges are on the job protecting me and my constituents and representing the law enforcement community so ably and honorably. I hope that our colleagues are as fortunate as my constituents are to have such dedicated men and women protecting them.

HOMEOWNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR NATIVE AMERICANS ACT OF 2004

HON. JIM MATHESON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for H.R. 4471, the Home Ownership Opportunities for Native Americans Act. I was pleased to introduce this bill with my friend and colleague on the Financial Services Committee, Mr. RENZI.

Many Native Americans continue to live in appalling housing conditions even as those in much of the nation have improved. American Indian and Alaska Native populations live in housing that is often and justifiably compared to third world nations. One out of every five Indian homes lacks complete plumbing facilities. Over 90,000, American Indians and Alaska Natives are homeless or underhoused.

On May 3, the Housing Subcommittee of the Financial Services Committee conducted a field hearing on the Navajo Reservation in an effort to better understand the challenges facing Native Americans in obtaining housing and to find ways to improve housing opportunities for Native Americans.

The Home Ownership Opportunities for Native Americans Act is the first of many needed legislative efforts to address the issues raised during our field hearing. This bill makes a simple and necessary correction—it will statutorily confirm a 95% loan guarantee under Title VI of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA).

While this vital Native American housing program at the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has operated at a 95% loan guarantee level since its implementation, a recent determination by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has indicated that only an 80% loan guarantee level is authorized without further action from Congress. H.R. 4471 makes this needed change and ensures that this important housing program will continue to be used to help Native Americans obtain housing.

I appreciate the strong leadership of my colleague from Arizona, Mr. RENZI, Ranking Member WATERS, and Chairman NEY on this issue. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation and I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues to address the many difficult challenges facing Native Americans in achieving home ownership.

RECOGNIZING THE SACRIFICE OF AN AMERICAN HERO: SPE- CIALIST ERIC MCKINLEY

HON. DARLENE HOOLEY

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the very special life of Eric MCKINLEY.

Eric, like most young men, loved his family, enjoyed his job, and dreamed of doing something important with the time given him.

But Specialist Eric McKinley was different from most. Simply put, Eric did more in his brief twenty-four years than many ever will. This local hero volunteered to serve his community, his State, and his Nation for a six year enlistment with the Oregon Army National Guard.

He proudly did his duty, and then he did more. You see, Eric was due to come home and be discharged in early April. His family, his friends, and his coworkers at the bakery shop in Corvallis where he worked longed for his laugh, his smile—his gentle presence.

But it was not to be.

Like a lot of young soldiers, Eric McKinley's service was extended in Iraq because his special skills were needed to rebuild a broken state, protect a delicate peace, and foster a climate within which a vulnerable but growing seed of democracy might take root.

Eric took his duty seriously, he knew the risks, and yet this self-sacrificing man chose to serve. He accepted his charge without complaint, he understood the need of the extension and quietly soldiered on as he always had.

Eric is the face of the Guard—but he is also the face of our community.

His desire was simple: lift young people up; provide them with new and viable alternatives for a healthy life, and provide a place for safe and meaningful fun.

Eric McKinley will not have the opportunity to build his own business as he had dreamed and watch the young people of Benton County enjoy the fun of a safe haven.

We are all now indebted to Eric's spirit and sacrifice. We are all now accountable to seek out the opportunities of tomorrow to help the young people that he cared so much about. We must stretch ourselves to make Eric's vision a new reality. All of us must join together to take up Eric's personal commitment in seeking to provide opportunities for the young people in our lives.

As the seasons come and the time passes, the pain of our loss will slowly subside. But the sacrifice of Eric McKinley will be as significant then as it is today: he gave his all so that others could have life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Eric's sacrifice must always be remembered.

It is now, and will be forever, our turn to repay the debt.

TRIBUTE TO COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR BILLY TENTION

HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the career of an extraordinary South Carolinian, United States Army Command Sergeant Major (CSM) Billy Tention. Following 30 years of distinguished service and after reaching the Army's highest enlisted rank, CSM Tention will retire from active duty on July 9, 2004. The significance of this milestone is matched only by his devoted service.

General George C. Marshall once said, "There is no limit to the good you can do if you don't care who gets the credit." This defines the military career of CSM Tention.

Born in September 1953, in Camden, South Carolina, he entered the Army in September 1974, after graduating from Ashwood Central High School. He underwent basic training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina and received his Advanced Training at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. CSM Tention then excelled at every rung up the leadership ladder. From his early days as non-commissioned officer in charge of the Services Branch at Eisenhower Army Medical Center to Hospital Command Sergeant Major at Fort Leonard Wood, CSM Tention has demonstrated the Army's core values: selfless service, loyalty, honor, and integrity.

His dedicated 30-year commitment to the Army speaks of his loyalty, loyalty to his country, the Army, and most importantly, his fellow soldiers. "Do your duty in all things," General Robert E. Lee once said. "You can never do more. You should never wish to do less." CSM Tention did his duty through service in numerous assignments including war-fighting during the first Persian Gulf War and other overseas duty in Europe and Asia. There's an old Army saying: "Take care of your people,

and they'll take care of you." CSM Tention has been taking care of his people for 30 years. Whether it's exceeding recruitment/retention goals, yielding the highest Expert Field Medical Badge graduation rate, or spearheading Dining In's and ethnic recognition programs, CSM Tention's actions reflect the highest respect and honor among seniors, peers, and subordinates alike.

CSM Tention's awards and decorations include two Legions of Merit, the Bronze Star Medal, two Meritorious Service Medals, the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, 10 Good Conduct Medals, the Kuwait Liberation Medal (Saudi Arabia), the Kuwait Liberation Medal (Kuwait), the Expert Field Medical Badge, the Air Assault Badge, and the Recruiter Badge with 3 Gold Stars.

CSM Tention earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Columbia College in 2004 and is working towards a Master's degree in Human Resource Management from Webster University.

I am proud to represent all South Carolinians in thanking CSM Tention and his family for their dedication, commitment to country, and service. CSM Tention is a credit to the United States Army and to the United States of America. I wish him all the best as he makes the transition to civilian life.

COMMENDING MILAN OPACICH

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to commend one of Northwest Indiana's most distinguished citizens, Milan Opacich, of Schererville, Indiana. Milan is one of twelve exemplary master folk and traditional artists chosen to receive the 2004 National Heritage Fellowship by the National Endowment for the Arts. On Thursday, September 30, 2004, he will be honored by the United States Government for his artistic excellence and his contributions to the art field. Milan's praiseworthy contributions will be recognized in Washington, D.C., at an awards ceremony on Capitol Hill.

Since 1982, the Endowment has awarded more than 282 National Heritage Fellowships. Recipients include bluesman B.B. King, Irish step dancer Michael Flatley, and acclaimed performers Shirley Caesar, Doc Watson, and Bill Monroe. Recipients are nominated, often by members of their own communities, and then judged by a panel on the basis of their continuing artistic accomplishments and contributions as practitioners or teachers. Milan was chosen for his expertise and commitment to passing on his skills and cultural traditions to a new generation. I can truly say that Milan is a dedicated, distinguished and committed citizen. I have known him for many years and consider him a close personal friend.

Milan was born and raised in Gary, Indiana by a Croatian mother and a Serbian father. He became interested in string music at the age of four, and at the age of fourteen he began playing country music. At the age of eighteen he took up tamburitza music. After high school, Milan became a journeyman tool and die maker, honing the skills he used to build

the tamburitza, a stringed instrument resembling the mandolin. He built instruments for himself, family, and friends; he also played in one of several orchestras.

In 1958 Milan joined the Gary Fire Department. He set up a small workshop in the basement of the firehouse to continue making his instruments during down times. When he wasn't fighting fires, Milan was in the basement of the firehouse making instruments. He worked for the Gary Fire Department for 20 years, retiring 26 years ago. Milan now resides in Schererville, Indiana. He has converted his garage into a workshop similar to a museum of musical instruments. He has several pictures highlighting the different bands he has played with over the years, most recently the Drina Tamburitza Orchestra. Today he is recognized as this Nation's premiere tamburitza maker. His instruments have been exhibited at both the Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian Institution and at the Roy Acuff Museum. In 2002, he was named to the Tamburitza Association of America Hall of Fame.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Milan Opacich for his outstanding contributions to the arts. His family and friends should be proud of his accomplishments. I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Milan Opacich for his lifetime of remarkable accomplishments and enduring service.

HIGHER EDUCATION SUSTAINABILITY ACT OF 2004

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the "Higher Education Sustainability Act of 2004," which would authorize \$50 million for six Sustainability Education Centers across the country to develop and implement integrated environmental, economic, and social sustainability programs. Each Sustainability Center will focus on multidisciplinary research, education, and outreach at institutions of higher education.

Sustainable development practices are being advanced by hundreds of U.S. cities and companies and through a variety of international agencies including the United Nations and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development. As population growth, urban development and extreme weather incidents place great stress on ecosystems around the globe, the need for developing innovative and successful sustainable development practices becomes critical to sustaining our economic competitiveness, improving our environmental health and creating more livable communities.

In my home State of Oregon, we have many great examples of sustainable development and livable communities. Portland State University, located in my hometown, provides an excellent example of how to incorporate sustainability throughout the curriculum. Faculty from the departments of social sciences, life sciences, physical sciences, humanities, as well as the professional schools have been working to incorporate sustainability principles

in their coursework and research. PSU has developed several new initiatives developed, including a Certificate in Sustainability Program focusing on PSU's partnerships with Asia and Europe.

Portland State University's Sustainability Initiative has placed a high priority on Green Buildings that use smart technology to improve operational performance and produce significant energy savings. Their green Stephen Epler Residence Hall, opened this fall, uses harvested rainwater in restrooms and features low-flow water fixtures for showers and toilets. Its integrated energy design is projected to produce an expected \$29,000 a year in annual energy cost savings. PSU will save an additional \$275,000 in energy cost across the campus this year simply by installing energy-efficient equipment and lighting fixtures and adjusting temperature settings. These savings translate into the tuition costs for nearly 80 students—a significant figure, given the rising cost of college today!

These innovations are just a few among many that are already underway in colleges and universities across the nation. This legislation will ensure that we can extend these innovations to all our institutions of higher learning. I look forward to working with my colleagues to pass this bill and make a commitment to making our educational communities more sustainable and livable.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 4659, USERRA HEALTH CARE COVERAGE EXTENSION ACT OF 2004

HON. HENRY E. BROWN, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Benefits of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, I am pleased to introduce H.R. 4659, the "USERRA Health Care Coverage Extension Act of 2004." I introduce this measure jointly with Representative MICHAEL MICHAUD, ranking member of the Benefits Subcommittee.

The bill would increase to 24 months, up from 18 months, the maximum period of employer-provided health care coverage that an employee covered by the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) may elect to continue to receive while mobilized as a reservist or Guard member. This legislation would also reinstate reporting requirements for the Department of Labor in consultation with the Office of Special Counsel and the Department of Justice on USERRA cases.

Mr. Speaker, due to the technical nature of this bill, I have kept it in draft form until now. This approach has afforded the Committee on Veterans' Affairs the opportunity to take testimony on the bill, today in fact, as part of a hearing titled, "Protecting the Rights of Those Who Protect Us: Public Sector Compliance with the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) and Improvements to the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (SCRA)." I am grateful to Chairman CHRISTOPHER SMITH and ranking member LANE EVANS for convening today's hearing because America has mobilized 387,986 reserve and Guard members in support of Operation

Noble Eagle, Operation Enduring Freedom, and Operation Iraqi Freedom. We need to continue to assist these selfless individuals. About 153,000 of them are still mobilized.

At today's hearing on the draft legislation, six Administration officials testified to the overall support of the bill. Craig Duehring, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs, stated in his testimony that, "Increasing from 18 months to 24 months the maximum period of employer-provided health care plan coverage that an employee covered by USERRA may elect to continue is an important amendment that will align this coverage period with the length of time for which reservists can be mobilized under the current mobilization authority."

The extension of health care coverage will be especially helpful to federal government employees. Dan Blair, Deputy Director of the Office of Personnel Management, informed the Committee this morning that, "Last year, we asked agencies how much of the Federal Employees Health Benefits they pay for these reservists. I am pleased to report most agencies pay both shares. Of the 114 agencies surveyed, 96 pay the full premium." The "full premium" means the employer-employee share. The federal government needs to be the model employer when it comes to reserve and Guard members.

With regard to reinstating the reporting requirements for the Department of Labor, Office of Special Counsel, and Department of Justice, all three supported this measure. In fact, Mr. Charles Ciccolella, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Veterans' Employment and Training at the Department of Labor, stated in his testimony that, "In the past, the Department found this requirement to be useful."

With the documented support of the "USERRA Health Care: Coverage Extension Act of 2004," I encourage my colleagues to add their names in support of this timely legislation.

ELKINS HIGH SCHOOL'S VARSITY SOFTBALL CHAMPIONS

HON. TOM DeLAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I want to take a moment to recognize some special constituents of mine, the members of the Elkins High School varsity softball team from Missouri City, for capping off their perfect 2004 season with the school's first Texas State championship.

To Coach Jim McClanahan, and assistant coaches Jim Smittle and Amy Mattes, thank you for the enormous amount of time and effort you gave to this team and for helping these girls live up to their potential. Without your hard work and dedication, this team could not have gotten where it is today.

And to the team itself—Alyssa Garza, Caryn Danielson, Abbie Palmieri, Amy Palmieri, Brittini Taylor, Courtney Cornett, Erin Howe, Erin Tresselt, Jamie Hinshaw, Jessie Rodriguez, Rachel Isenhower, Ragan Blake, Sam Dyess, Tiffany Williams, Ryan Graybill, Jenna Lamoreux, Shallon Watson, and Ashley Patterson—congratulations! I'm proud to represent you all in the House of Representatives.

While it's pretty clear from their record that there's a lot of talent on this team, you can't win 39 straight games on talent alone. It takes hard work, perseverance, and dedication—virtues this team has exemplified during its stellar season.

It's great to have talent, but it's better to have commitment. As someone once said, "It doesn't matter how good you are if you don't work hard."

These girls set themselves a goal this year and accomplished it. To have gone an entire season without a single loss is an amazing achievement and a testament to the character of these young ladies.

I am honored to enter their names and accomplishments into the RECORD today.

IN RECOGNITION OF RITA MORENO

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding performer, actress, and entertainer Rita Moreno for receiving the "nation's highest civilian award recognizing exceptional meritorious service," the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Rita Moreno has been an inspiration to many throughout her remarkable career as an actress on screen and stage. Her performances have been recognized with Grammy, Tony, and Emmy Awards, and she received an Oscar in 1961 for her performance as Anita in *West Side Story*. She has, in fact, been listed in the Guinness Book of World Records for her achievements and being the only female performer to have won all four of the most prestigious performing arts awards. Today, June 23, 2004 she will be honored at a White House ceremony with the presentation of the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

A dramatic actress, singer, dancer, comedienne, Ms. Moreno has portrayed a variety of different roles going beyond traditional limitations and proving that Latino performers are not limited to "ethnic" roles. Her versatility has led to decades of success on stage, screen, and television.

Ms. Moreno was born Rosa Delores Alverio in Humacao, a small town in Puerto Rico. At the age of five years old, she joined her mother in New York and the following year she started her dancing lessons. Rosita's immense talent became evident at a young age. By the age of thirteen, Rita Moreno had made her Broadway debut in *"Skydrift"*. She signed her first movie contract at the age of seventeen.

Ms. Moreno made some thirty films early in her career, and was often typecast as a Mexican spitfire or an Indian maiden. After a decade of these stereotypical roles she was cast as the strong-willed and independent Anita in the movie version of *West Side Story*. It was only after Rita Moreno won an Oscar for her outstanding performance as "Anita", which gained international acclaim, that she was finally recognized as a major talent. Indeed, the film's depiction of ethnic division and urban violence can be seen as a foreshadowing of the civil rights struggles and general social turbulence of subsequent years. Rita Moreno's depiction of a young woman believing in and pursuing the American dream was vivid and memorable.

In the early 1970s Ms. Moreno appeared in children's television programs providing inspiration to Hispanic children, with the intent to assure them of their value as citizens of society. Rita Moreno has also been the guest star on a wide variety of television productions, both here and abroad, including highly regarded educational television programs as well as starring in her own TV series.

Becoming engaged in so many facets of entertainment, Rita Moreno, early in 1978, turned her attention for the first time to live performances, creating an act that has attracted outstanding critical acclaim. All things considered, Rita Moreno's success goes far beyond her ability to act and sing or win awards. She has strived throughout her career to push past the boundaries that have marginalized actors who did not seem to represent mainstream America and cast Latinos and other minorities in menial roles. She continues to keep busy performing concerts across the country as a guest artist with symphony orchestras. In addition to her film, stage, television and concert careers, Ms. Moreno fills her spare time by lecturing to various organizations as well as to university audiences. She is also involved with a number of civic and charitable organizations and events.

Rita Moreno is a member of the Board of Directors of Third World Cinema, a company which is interested in creating opportunities in the film industry for minority groups, and has served as a member of the Board of Directors of the National Foundation for the Arts, the Alvin Ailey Dance Company, the Joffrey Ballet and the Los Angeles Theatre Center, as well as many other worthwhile organizations. Ms. Moreno is currently a member of the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities and a commissioner of the very prestigious Presidential Fellowship Committee.

It is a special honor for me to recognize Rita Moreno and her great work in performing arts and to salute her leadership and achievements.

HONORING BRIAN BRADY

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent Brian Brady who is retiring as Chief of Police of Novato, California. He has served in this capacity since 1992, undertaking many innovative projects in the city and earning the respect of the community.

Educated at Golden Gate University and Sonoma State University, Chief Brady served in several cities in California and New Mexico before coming to Novato in 1982 as Captain of both the Operations and Services and Administration Divisions. With a commitment to the principles of Community Policing, he assisted in the development of the city's first Police Advisory and Review Board and the Multi-Cultural Oversight Committee. A broad community collaboration that involved all officers, including service on boards of directors, Community Policing resulted in constant interactions, constructive dialogues and creation of additional successful programs such as:

School Resource Officers project uses uniformed officers on campus as part of the day

to day operations at high schools and middle schools.

Project X is a youth team building project in which officers work with an Auto Shop Class at San Marin High School to build and maintain a drag racing vehicle. It has been painted to look like a police car and has been raced successfully, bringing money back to the program.

Girls Forum, developed after incidents of sexual assault, offers self-defense classes as well as instruction in self-esteem with women officers as role models. It is also supported by Soroptimist and Rotary.

Chief Brady's tenure will be especially remembered for his leadership in confronting hate crimes. I had the privilege of observing his work first hand after the racially motivated stabbing of a young Asian man outside a supermarket in Novato. Under his direction, the Police Department treated the incident as a hate crime from the outset by assigning top staff to the case and comforting the victim. Novato held public meetings to address the crime, resulting in the filming of *Not in Our Town II*, in which the city's response to hate crime is featured as an example to the nation. He continues to promote the use of diversity materials, including those that deal with lesbians and gays, in local classrooms.

Mr. Speaker, Brian Brady's inclusive vision for police work promotes the best in our communities. It is an honor to consider him a friend and to have shared in some of his inspiration and success.

ENACTMENT OF THE NATIONAL
GREAT BLACK AMERICANS COM-
MEMORATION ACT OF 2003, H.R.
2424 AND S. 1233

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the enactment of the National Great Black Americans Commemoration Act of 2003, H.R. 2424 and S. 1233, companion legislation that I introduced along with my friend Senator BARBARA MIKULSKI of Maryland. This bill received bipartisan support in both committees of jurisdiction in the House, as well as bicameral support—having passed quickly to the floor from the Senate Judiciary Committee. I thank the President for signing this legislation into law on June 22, 2004.

With valued input from Drs. Elmer and Joanne Martin, founders of the Great Blacks in Wax Museum, I introduced this bill to help bring long overdue recognition to African Americans who have served our Nation with great distinction, but whose names, faces and achievements may not be well-known by the average citizen. Rest assured that this recognition can and will be accomplished and preserved through expansion of the Great Blacks in Wax Museum—a national treasure located in my district in Baltimore, Maryland.

In addition to the 200 existing figures at the museum, I am pleased to inform that a priority will be placed on exhibits presenting the 22 Black Americans who served in Congress during the 19th century. Several of these 22 were born into slavery. All of these Americans proudly served their constituencies and their

Nation. Other members from the 1900s such as Senator Edward Brooke, Representatives Julian Dixon (D-CA), Oscar Stanton De Priest (R-IL), Louis Stokes (D-OH), Parren J. Mitchell (D-MD), J.C. Watts, Jr. (R-OK) and others will also receive special recognition. Several of the existing figures depict Colin Powell, Harriet Tubman, Martin Luther King, Jr., Mary McLeod Bethune and former Representatives Mickey Leland of Texas, as well as, Shirley Chisholm and Adam Clayton Powell of New York.

The expanded museum will focus on Black military veterans of various military engagements, including the Buffalo Soldiers and Tuskegee Airmen; on Black judges and prominent attorneys; and on the role of Blacks in the discovery and settlement of America. It will also showcase Blacks who served in senior civilian Executive Branch positions, such as Ralph Bunche (FDR administration), E. Fredrick Morrow (Eisenhower administration), Robert Weaver (Johnson Administration), William Coleman (Ford administration), Patricia Harris (Carter administration), Louis Sullivan (George H.W. Bush administration), and others who have not received appropriate recognition.

Lastly, this legislation authorizes assistance in establishing a Justice Learning Center as a component of the expanded Museum complex. The Justice Learning Center will include state-of-the-art facilities and resources to educate the public, especially at-risk youth, about the role of African Americans in our nation's judicial system. It will include a special focus on the civil rights movement, and on the role of African Americans as lawmakers, attorneys and in the Judiciary.

Mr. Speaker, the Great Blacks in Wax Museum was founded in 1983 by Dr. Elmer Martin and Dr. Joanne Martin, who started the museum with their own funds carrying a few figures and exhibit materials around the country in their car. Today I am proud to report that the museum currently occupies part of a city block in East Baltimore and includes more than 200 wax figures. It is America's first wax museum of Black history. The museum now receives well over 200,000 visitors a year—more than half of these visitors are school children. I also will mention that several members of Congress and their staff have visited the museum and relayed to me the awesome nature of their visit—how the figures and exhibits both moved and informed—resulting in a truly enriching experience. Enactment makes certain that the Museum can continue its mission to preserve a great part of our nation's history.

I would be remiss if I did not relay to you how important and inspiring this Museum is to its East Baltimore community. The Great Blacks in Wax Museum functions as more than just a museum. It is a stalwart in its community. The Martins established the Museum with the primary motivation "to use education, history and example to help mainly disadvantaged youth overcome feelings of alienation, defeatism and despair." It provides a safe-haven for at-risk youth and offers opportunities for young people in the community to take part in employment, intern and volunteer programs. The Museum has enrichment programs for individuals, families, daycare centers, churches, schools and other non-profit organizations. In keeping with its commitment to community involvement, the Museum's many programs serve as a means for taking learning and cultural enrichment beyond the school walls. The

Justice Learning Center will extend the outreach efforts of the Museum to homeless shelters, halfway houses, adult day care, domestic violence centers, youth residential facilities and other places to reach disadvantaged and/or at-risk youth and families.

Mr. Speaker, enactment of this legislation is a testament to the Martins' persistence and vision. Enactment also means that the National Great Blacks in Wax Museum—a national treasure—will receive needed federal support to ensure that generations yet unborn will be told the story of these great Americans. The Museum will assure that History never forgets this legacy.

Finally, again, I want to thank Representative SENSENBRENNER and his staff Joseph Gibson and Katy Crooks, Representative CONYERS and his staff Lillian German, as well as Representatives POMBO and RAHALL and their staffers, Frank Vitello, Richard Healy and David Watkins for all of their hard work in moving this legislation through their respective Committees. I would especially like to thank my legislative director, Kimberly Ross, in seeing this legislation through to its successful end.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JIM THRASH

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Jim Thrash of New Meadows, Idaho. Jim bravely battled the Storm King Mountain Fire outside the town of Glenwood Springs, Colorado in 1994, but succumbed to the blaze along with thirteen fellow firefighters while working to protect the city. I personally served as a firefighter and understand the risks they face each and everyday. Witnessing the awful inferno that fateful July day, I know Jim and his comrades battled the fire with the utmost courage and valor. With the tenth anniversary of the Storm King Fire approaching, I believe it appropriate to recognize the sacrifice Jim and the Storm King Firefighters made on behalf of a grateful community, state and Nation.

Jim grew up in Arizona and moved to Idaho with his wife in 1973 where he taught high school Spanish and social studies, and coached varsity baseball. Jim and his wife owned and operated a big game hunting business in Idaho, and he was a member of the Idaho Outfitters and Guides Association where he was president, served on the board, and chaired the wilderness committee. He joined the McCall Smokejumpers in 1981, an elite group of firefighters who parachute into rough, mountainous terrain to fight wildfires in areas of forests inaccessible by any other means. He was a dedicated member of his crew, and received a great deal of satisfaction from helping others. Above all, he was devoted to his family and friends.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise before this body of Congress and this Nation to pay tribute to the life and memory of Firefighter Jim Thrash. Jim was committed to providing high quality professional fire management services to protect our natural resources; putting himself in harms way for unfamiliar people

and places. He made the ultimate sacrifice doing what he loved, and I, along with the Glenwood Springs community and the State of Colorado are eternally grateful to this brave man.

HONORING PAUL T. MCCARTHY

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, over 22 years ago, Paul T. McCarthy became the Village Manager of Glenview, IL, located in my Congressional District. Since that time, Mr. McCarthy has played the leading role in the development of one of suburban Chicago's most prosperous communities.

Upon arriving in Glenview, Mr. McCarthy embarked upon an ambitious program to attract businesses and residents to the community. One of his first projects was to improve the bond rating of the Village as an incentive to investors and capital. Within 8 years, Glenview had achieved Moody's highest bond rating of AAA. It has maintained that rating ever since.

With this strong financial foundation, Mr. McCarthy began to implement his vision for the Village. In 1990, he negotiated the Willow Road Corridor Agreement between Glenview and Northbrook. In 1997, he negotiated the purchase of the privately-owned water company, North Suburban Public Utilities. He also oversaw the closing of the Lutter/Krohn landfill and its redevelopment as a golf course. These 3 initiatives, along with numerous other projects, had tangible, beneficial effects upon Glenview residents and were the direct result of Mr. McCarthy's leadership and vision.

Mr. McCarthy's biggest challenge was ahead of him. In the second or third round of military base closings, the massive Glenview Naval Air Station was shut down, opening up thousands of prime real estate acres for development. Mr. McCarthy led the development of this area with extraordinary success. The Glen, as the area is now known, has become a nationally recognized and award winning mixed use development, representing \$1 billion in public and private investment.

In his 22 years of service, Mr. McCarthy has led the Village of Glenview with tremendous foresight and success. When he entered city hall as Village Manager, Glenview had a budget of \$15.4 million and 180 employees. As Mr. McCarthy retires, the Glenview budget is \$80.7 million and the Village employs 320 individuals. Mr. McCarthy's leadership as Village Manager of Glenview, IL, is worthy of the highest commendation. I wish him and his wife much happiness in retirement. Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing this extraordinary individual.

CONGRATULATIONS TO FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Fraternal Order of

Police on their outstanding victory today on the passage of the Law Enforcement Officer's Safety Act (H.R. 218).

This afternoon, H.R. 218 passed the House by a voice vote, affirming this body's support for police officers across America. H.R. 218 is the number one priority for law enforcement across the country and allows qualified off-duty and retired law enforcement officers to carry concealed weapons in any jurisdiction. The bill has broad bipartisan support with 296 cosponsors.

The F.O.P. has been absolutely instrumental in working with Members of Congress to bring this legislation to the floor. The F.O.P. is an outstanding organization that has served their membership well in their tireless work to bring their number one legislative priority to the House Floor. Many of us know the long history of H.R. 218 and I can safely say that were it not for the efforts of the F.O.P., their current President Chuck Canterbury, and former President Steve Young, this bill may have never seen the light of day.

The benefits of H.R. 218 are two-fold—officer safety and improved public safety. Many jurisdictions do not allow off-duty officers to carry concealed weapons. Due to the unique responsibilities and dangers that come with law enforcement, off-duty officers are at a greater risk than most Americans. It is not uncommon for off-duty officers to run into people they have arrested or helped to incarcerate. There have been documented instances where felons have sought retribution against officers who helped to put them in jail or prison. It is only right that the men and women who put their lives on the line everyday when they go to work be afforded to right to protect their families and themselves while they are off-duty.

These concerns apply not only to off-duty officers, but to retired officers as well. A criminal who is seeking retribution does not care that the officer who put them away is retired. It is a disservice to those men and women who risked their lives to perform a public service to be deprived of the right to defend themselves and their families simply because they retired.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to the F.O.P. for all their efforts on behalf of H.R. 218 and for cops across the country. Today, I am happy to join with them in celebrating House passage of this crucial legislation and look forward to working with the F.O.P. in the future to see H.R. 218 signed into law.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ROB JOHNSON

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Rob Johnson of Redmond, Oregon. Rob bravely battled the Storm King Mountain Fire outside the town of Glenwood Springs, Colorado in 1994, but succumbed to the blaze along with thirteen fellow firefighters while working to protect the City. I personally served as a firefighter and understand the risks they face each and every day. Witnessing the awful inferno that fateful July day,

I know Rob and his comrades battled the fire with the utmost courage and valor. With the tenth anniversary of the Storm King Fire approaching, I believe it appropriate to recognize the sacrifice Rob and the Storm King Firefighters made on behalf of a grateful community, state and nation.

Rob grew up in Roseburg, Oregon, and graduated from high school in the top ten percent of his class. He attended Oregon State University and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in business administration with honors in 1991, and passed the Certified Public Accounting Exam on his first attempt. He began working as a firefighter in 1987 to help pay for his education and joined the Prineville Hotshots in 1992, an elite group of firefighters who specialize in wildland fire suppression. An avid outdoorsman, Rob enjoyed skiing, hunting, fishing, water skiing, golf, and soccer. He was a hard worker and dedicated member of his crew. Above all, he was devoted to his family and friends.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise before this body of Congress and this nation to pay tribute to the life and memory of Firefighter Rob Johnson. Rob personified the Hotshots credo of Safety, Teamwork, and Professionalism; putting himself in harm's way for unfamiliar people and places. He made the ultimate sacrifice doing what he loved, and I, along with the Glenwood Springs community and the State of Colorado are eternally grateful to this brave young man.

RECOGNIZING KAREN HIRAI OLEN

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a true champion and extraordinary public servant, Karen Hirai Olen. Karen has provided an array of services throughout Los Angeles County as an advocate for the physically challenged, impoverished families, and senior citizens. After 35 years of service to the residents of Los Angeles County, she will retire today.

I have personally known Karen and consider her to be a dear friend and advocate of social change. Karen began her career in 1968 as a Social Worker for the Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services. Karen's passion to ensure the rights of children led her to become a Children's Services Worker from 1969 to 1979. From 1982 to 1986, Karen served as the Director of the Carson/Samoan center where she brought a new approach and innovative concepts to providing extensive quality services, such as the Peace Corps funded Samoan Youth Employment Project which she directed and implemented.

From 1986 to 1988, Karen also served as Project Director for Foodnet where she led a grassroots effort in organizing faith-based organizations and social service agencies to join forces to provide nutritious food to impoverished families.

Karen was later named Director of Centro Maravilla Service Center by the Department of Community and Senior Services for the County of Los Angeles. Through her leadership, residents from Los Angeles County have received direct services such as emergency

food, mediation services, crisis intervention, resource information for victims of domestic violence, and case management for housing.

The residents from the East Los Angeles community greatly respect and admire Karen for her courage, leadership, and compassion. I wish her the very best in her retirement.

**LEADER OF DELHI MASSACRE OF
SIKHS COMING TO U.S. TO MAKE
A SPEECH**

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, on October 31, 1984, Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was assassinated by her two Sikh bodyguards after she ordered an attack upon the Golden Temple, which is the center and seat of the Sikh religion. In the aftermath of the assassination, thousands of Sikhs were killed in anti-Sikh riots. The massacre was by any definition a brutal atrocity, and one of the most prominent figures accused of helping to orchestrate the violence was Jagdish Tytler.

Now, Mr. Tytler, who led mobs of Hindus in killing Sikhs, some by burning them to death, and who saw to it that Sikh police were locked in their barracks and therefore unable to respond to the massacre, has been invited to speak at the convention of the American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin in San Diego, which begins on June 25th. As someone who has long championed the cause of freedom, democracy, and equal rights for the Sikh community and other oppressed minorities in that part of the world, I am deeply concerned about this man coming to the United States, and I would urge the American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin to reconsider their invitation to Mr. Tytler.

I am also deeply concerned to learn that Mr. Tytler has been given a position in the government of Prime Minister Manmohan Singh. Prime Minister Singh is a Sikh, and the Sikh community naturally had high hopes that Manmohan Singh's appointment to India's top job would bridge the gap between the Sikh and Hindu peoples. It is difficult to understand how this can be accomplished when Prime Minister Singh is willing to bring a person like Mr. Tytler into his government, as many Sikhs, including my good friend Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan, consider Mr. Tytler's presence in the government an affront to the Sikh people.

So long as people like Jagdish Tytler are in the India government, it draws into question whether India is truly willing to uphold the democratic values that it preaches. In addition Mr. Speaker, it should also draw into question the wisdom of the hard-working taxpayers of this country supporting a government that rewards the Jagdish Tytler's of the world with power and authority.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ROGER ROTH

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the life

and legacy of Roger Roth. Roger bravely battled the Storm King Mountain Fire outside the town of Glenwood Springs, Colorado in 1994, but succumbed to the blaze along with thirteen fellow firefighters while working to protect the City. I personally served as a firefighter and understand the risks they face each and every day. Witnessing the awful inferno that fateful July day, I know Roger and his comrades battled the fire with the utmost courage and valor. With the tenth anniversary of the Storm King Fire approaching, I believe it appropriate to recognize the sacrifice Roger and the Storm King Firefighters made on behalf of a grateful community, state and Nation.

A member of the Oneida tribe of the Iroquois Nation, Roger grew up in Michigan and attended Northern Michigan University. He spent seven summers as a trail crew leader at Isle Royale National Park on Lake Superior. He became a firefighter in 1989, first as a hot-shot, an elite group of firefighters who specialize in wildland fire suppression, and then became a smokejumper, providing initial attack on forest fires in remote, mountainous areas. He worked winters for the Fish & Wildlife Service at the Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge and was a private helicopter pilot. An avid outdoorsman, Roger enjoyed fishing and hunting. He was a hard worker and dedicated member of his crew. Above all, he was devoted to his family and friends.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise before this body of Congress and this nation to pay tribute to the life and memory of Firefighter Roger Roth. Roger personified the Hotshots credo of Safety, Teamwork, and Professionalism; putting himself in harms way for unfamiliar people and places. He made the ultimate sacrifice doing what he loved, and I, along with the Glenwood Springs community and the State of Colorado are eternally grateful to this brave man.

**DEMOCRACY CAUCUS AT THE
UNITED NATIONS**

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend my co-chair of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus and ranking member of the House International Relations Committee, TOM LANTOS, for introducing this important and timely legislation. I would also like to thank Chairman HYDE and Chairman DREIER for their leadership on this important issue.

The strength of the United Nations has been declining in recent years. Corrupt dictatorships now hold many seats on the U.N. Human Rights Commission. It is incredible that the leading world body charged with protecting and exposing human rights has some of the worst human rights abusers sitting in judgment. I was extremely concerned when the United Nations Commission on Human Rights passed a watered down draft discussion on the slaughter occurring in Darfur, Sudan. I commend the administration for taking a stand on the importance on the commission passing strong resolution and applaud the U.S. delegation for walking out when the commission failed in its responsibility to expose and condemn the human rights abuses taking place in Darfur.

It was unfathomable that on May 4 the commission allowed Sudan to renew its seat on the panel. Over one million people have now been displaced in Darfur. Thousands are dying. Women raped. Boys and men slaughtered. The rainy season has begun, and the roads will soon become impassable. Massive numbers face death while the Government of Sudan blocks humanitarian aid, continuing to worsen an already tragic situation. The Government of Sudan must be held accountable for what is occurring in Darfur.

The United States must continue to take a leadership role in calling the world's attention to the human rights abuses occurring across the globe. The creation of a democracy caucus at the United Nations is a first step in reducing the power of abusive nations which sit at the United Nations. This caucus can help fill the seats on the Human Rights Commission with freedom loving democracies which respect and protect the human rights of their people.

**TRIBUTE TO BISHOP ZEDEKIAH
LAZETT GRADY**

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Bishop Zedekiah Lazett Grady, one of eight legendary leaders of the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church who will be retiring this year at the Quadrennial Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Bishop Zedekiah Lazett Grady was born in Loughman, Florida, the son of the late Walter and Sylvia Bynum Grady. He was educated in the public schools of Sanford, Florida and is a graduate of Crooms Academy. He further matriculated at Edwards Waters College and the B.L. Lee Theological Seminary, where he received an Associate of Arts and the Bachelor of Theology degrees. He also attended Allen University, where he received the Bachelor of Arts degree and Dickerson Theological Seminary, where he earned the Bachelor of Divinity and Masters of Divinity degrees. He furthered his graduate theological studies at the Union Theological Seminary in New York, New York and the Urban Training Center in Chicago, Illinois. He has received honorary doctorate degrees from Kittrell College in North Carolina, Allen University, and Edwards Waters College.

Bishop Grady has served the church and African Methodism for well over 40 years as a distinguished pastor, capable administrator, civic organizer, ecumenical leader, social reformer, teacher and Presiding Elder. He has served as pastor in Florida and South Carolina. For almost twenty years he was pastor of my home church, Morris Brown in Charleston, South Carolina. During his tenure there, Bishop Grady burned several mortgages, renovated the sanctuary, purchased and developed additional property, organized and developed several social service programs, and added 1,100 members to the church roll.

While serving as Presiding Elder of the historically rich Edisto District, the South Carolina Conference in the 7th Episcopal District, Bishop Grady distinguished himself by realizing a 10 percent increase in membership each year and increasing the number of pastoral charges from 24 to 35.

Bishop Grady has been lauded for his services as a key negotiator in the 1969 hospital strike in Charleston, South Carolina. He has also served as chairman and vice-chairman of the South Carolina Juvenile Parole Board, strategist and advisor of several State and municipal elected officials, and is a past Chairman of the Charleston Community Race Relations Committee. Bishop Grady was a member of the Charleston Housing Authority and has served as a delegate to five World Methodist Conferences. He also served on the local boards of C&S National Bank and NationsBank. He holds life memberships in Beta Mu Sigma Chapter, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., and the NAACP.

On July 14, 1992, Bishop Grady was elected the 111th Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church and has served in the 16th and 9th Episcopal Districts and currently serves the 1st Episcopal District.

Bishop Grady is married to Carrie Etta Robertson Grady of Winnsboro, South Carolina. They have four children.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in paying tribute to Bishop Zedekiah Lazette Grady upon his retirement from the Bishopric. In addition to being a great religious leader, he has been a trusted personal confidant. I am proud to have called him my pastor and even prouder to call him my friend.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DON MACKEY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Don Mackey. Don bravely battled the Storm King Mountain Fire outside the town of Glenwood Springs, Colorado in 1994, but succumbed to the blaze along with thirteen fellow firefighters while working to protect the City. I personally served as a firefighter and understand the risks they face each and every day. Witnessing the awful inferno that fateful July day, I know Don and his comrades battled the fire with the utmost courage and valor. With the tenth anniversary of the Storm King Fire approaching, I believe it appropriate to recognize the sacrifice Don and the Storm King Firefighters made on behalf of a grateful community, state and nation.

Don grew up in Hamilton, Montana where he attended Hamilton High School. He became a firefighter in 1984 working in the Bitterroot National Forest. He later became a hotshot in 1985 and 1986, an elite group of firefighters who specialize in wildland fire suppression. In 1987 he became a Missoula smokejumper, where he, along with fellow smokejumpers would parachute into rough, mountainous terrain to fight wildfires in areas of forests inaccessible by any other means. He was a dedicated member of his crew, and received a great deal of satisfaction from helping others. Above all, he was devoted to his family and friends.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise before this body of Congress and this Nation to pay tribute to the life and memory of Firefighter Don Mackey. Don was committed to providing high quality professional fire management

services to protect our natural resources, putting himself in harms way for unfamiliar people and places. He made the ultimate sacrifice doing what he loved, and I, along with the Glenwood Springs community and the State of Colorado are eternally grateful to this brave man.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF 2004 LEGRAND SMITH OUTSTANDING TEACHER AWARD WINNER LORI SYKES OF BRONSON, MICHIGAN

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, education is the key to our Nation's future prosperity and security. The formidable responsibility of molding and inspiring young minds to the avenues of hope, opportunity and achievement partially rests in the hands of our teachers. Today, I would like to recognize a teacher from Bronson, Michigan that significantly influenced and motivated exceptional students in academics and leadership who were winners of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship.

Lori Sykes teaches Mathematics and Science at Litchfield High School in Litchfield. She is credited with instilling in students an enthusiasm for not only these subjects, but also for life. As one of her students, Lindsey Teller, said, "She taught me a strong work ethic, as she always expected the very best from me. I felt like she was a real person, not just a teacher." The respect and gratitude of her students speak well of Lori's ability to challenge young minds and encourage them to always put forth their best effort.

Lori Sykes' extraordinary work as a teacher has challenged and inspired countless students to move beyond the teenage tendency of superficial study and encourage them to foster deeper thought and connections to the real world. Arguably, no profession is more important because of its daily influence upon the future leaders of our community and our country, and Lori's impact on her students is certainly worthy of recognition.

On behalf of the Congress of the United States of America, I am proud to extend our highest praise to Lori Sykes. We thank her for her continuing dedication to teaching and her willingness and ability to challenge and inspire students to strive for success.

RECOGNITION OF MAJOR GENERAL WILLIAM H. RUSS' RETIREMENT AND HIS INVALUABLE SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to recognize the accomplishments and career of Major General William H. Russ upon his retirement from the United States Army. Formerly the Commanding General of the United States Army Signal Command of Fort Huachuca, Arizona and the Director for Programs and Architec-

ture, Office of the Director of Information Systems for Command, Control, Communications and Computers in Washington, DC, Major General Russ will be relinquishing his position as Commanding General of the United States Army Communications-Electronics Command at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey on Friday, June 25, 2004.

Before pursuing military education, Major General Russ completed a Bachelor of Science degree in Electronics from Florida A&M University and a Master of Science degree in Public Administration from Shippensburg University in Pennsylvania. His military education includes the Signal Basic and Advanced Courses, the Armed Forces Staff College, and the United States Army War College.

His military career has taken him from serving as Communications Officer for the 1st battalion, 32nd Armor, 3rd Armored Division, United States Army Europe and Seventh Army to his current position as Commanding General U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command and Fort Monmouth, New Jersey. During that time he has earned numerous military awards and decorations including: Army Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, and the Meritorious Service Medal (with four Oak Leaf Clusters), to name a few.

A career such as this merits strong praise, Mr. Speaker, and as such I would like to extend my sincerest gratitude to Major General William H. Russ for his service and dedication to this country. My congratulations go to Brigadier General Michael R. Mazzucchi, who will be assuming Major General Russ' station, and my best wishes to Major General Russ and his family upon his retirement.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BONNIE HOLTBY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Bonnie Holtby of Prineville, Oregon. Bonnie bravely battled the Storm King Mountain Fire outside the town of Glenwood Springs, Colorado in 1994, but succumbed to the blaze along with thirteen fellow firefighters while working to protect the City. I personally served as a firefighter and understand the risks they face each and every day. Witnessing the awful inferno that fateful July day, I know Bonnie and her comrades battled the fire with the utmost courage and valor. With the tenth anniversary of the Storm King Fire approaching, I believe it appropriate to recognize the sacrifice Bonnie and the Storm King Firefighters made on behalf of a grateful community, state and nation.

A third generation firefighter, Bonnie was in her third season with the Prineville Hotshots, an elite group of firefighters who specialize in wildland fire suppression. An exceptional student-athlete, Bonnie participated in basketball, track, cross-country, and weight training during high school, receiving numerous scholar-athlete awards. She was also active in 4-H, which now provides a memorial award in her honor to a 4-H member who exhibits leadership, sportsmanship, and overall success in 4-

H livestock and small animal projects. She was a dedicated member of her crew, and received a great deal of satisfaction from helping others. Above all, she was devoted to her family and friends.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise before this body of Congress and this nation to pay tribute to the life and memory of Firefighter Bonnie Holtby. Bonnie personified the Hot-shots credo of Safety, Teamwork and Professionalism; putting herself in harm's way for unfamiliar people and places. She made the ultimate sacrifice doing what she loved, and I, along with the Glenwood Springs community and the State of Colorado are eternally grateful to this brave young woman.

SCOTT LILLY DEDICATION

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated public servant. Scott Lilly has spent 31 years serving the House of Representatives. Scott's career in Congress started in 1973, coincidentally, the same year I was appointed to the Appropriations Committee. While he has held many distinguished positions during his long tenure in the House, most of his time was spent working in some capacity for the House Appropriations Committee.

Scott started and ended his career working for my friend and Ranking Member, David Obey. He had a brief tenure as the Clerk and Staff Director of the House Appropriations Committee and has spent the last nine years as director of the minority staff of the committee.

Scott is an unapologetic liberal and we have vigorous debates and differences in our committee. But Scott never allowed a political dispute to become personal. We could have a knock-down drag-out fight in committee and after it was over Scott and the staff from both sides of aisle would retire to the Committee's appointed space and enjoy an adult beverage. There was never any lingering ill will or hard feelings.

Scott is a consummate professional. His knowledge and expertise of appropriations matters is rivaled by few. He is a shrewd floor tactician and legislative strategist. Scott will now be able to spend more time in the academic world, a world where he is able draw on his great intellect and wealth of Congressional experience. Our loss is his student's gain. Every class he teaches will be enriched by his thoughtful consideration of complex political and policy questions.

Scott will be sorely missed. I can say with confidence that he will not miss our long mark-ups, our late night conferences and the marathon sessions on the floor. He is a great patriot, a great public servant and a great appropriator. I wish him all the success in his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO BISHOP FRANK CURTIS CUMMINGS

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Bishop Frank Curtis Cummings, one of eight legendary leaders of the African Methodist Episcopal Church (AME) who will be retiring at this year's Quadrennial Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana. A native of Alabama, Bishop Cummings is the son of Edmond and Annie M. Cummings.

He received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Daniel Payne College, a Bachelor of Arts degree from Seattle Pacific College, and a Doctor of Divinity degree from Shorter College. Bishop Cummings followed not only God's call but also his country's call and served in the United States Air Force for three years, and attended the Urban Training Center.

Bishop Cummings was ordained an Itinerant Deacon in 1948 and an Itinerant Elder in 1952. While in those positions, he pastored churches in Aldridge, Alabama; Bremerton, Washington; Santa Barbara, California; and St. Louis, Missouri.

In 1968, he was elected Secretary-Treasurer of the AME's Department of Church Expansion. He founded Allen Travel Service and served as the first Black Vice Chairman on the Civil Service Commission in St. Louis. In addition, he served as President of the Board of Directors for the West End Hospital Association.

Bishop Cummings was elected the 95th Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church at the 1976 General Conference in Atlanta, Georgia. He has presided over the 8th, 1st, 11th, and 6th Episcopal Districts, and entertained the General Conference in New Orleans. He also served as national co-chairman of the first National Assembly of Black Churches in April 1984 in New Orleans. Bishop Cummings is married to Martha Colly Cummings and the couple has one child.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Bishop Frank Curtis Cummings upon his retirement from the Bishopric. He has provided tremendous leadership for the AME Church. His long history of educational leadership and service will influence future generations for ages to come. AME founder Richard Allen would be deeply proud of his Episcopal descendent.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DOUGLAS DUNBAR

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Douglas Dunbar of McKenzie Bridge, Oregon. Doug bravely battled the Storm King Mountain Fire outside the town of Glenwood Springs, Colorado in 1994, but succumbed to the blaze along with thirteen fellow firefighters while working to protect the City. I personally served as a firefighter and understand the risks they face each and everyday.

Witnessing the awful inferno that fateful July day I know Doug and his comrades battled the fire with the utmost courage and valor. With the tenth anniversary of the Storm King Fire approaching, I believe it appropriate to recognize the sacrifice Doug and the Storm King Firefighters made on behalf of a grateful community, state, and nation.

Born and raised in McKenzie Bridge, Oregon, Doug attended McKenzie High School where he was an honor student, all star baseball player, and award-winning saxophonist. He was attending Southern Oregon State College where he was completing his business degree. In 1990 he began working for the Forest Service to help pay for his education. Doug immensely enjoyed the job and the people he worked with on the Prineville Hotshot Crew, an elite group of firefighters who specialize in wildland fire suppression. Doug had a true love for the outdoors, and was an accomplished skier who was pursuing a career in the ski industry. Above all, he was devoted to his family and friends.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise before this body of Congress and this Nation to pay tribute to the life and memory of Firefighter Douglas Dunbar. Doug personified the Hot-shots credo of Safety, Teamwork, and Professionalism; putting himself in harm's way for unfamiliar people and places. He made the ultimate sacrifice doing what he loved, and I, along with the Glenwood Springs community and the State of Colorado are eternally grateful to this brave, young man.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF 2004 LEGRAND SMITH OUTSTANDING TEACHER AWARD WINNER J. BARRY WELDON

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, education is the key to our Nation's future prosperity and security. The formidable responsibility of molding and inspiring young minds to the avenues of hope, opportunity and achievement partially rests in the hands of our teachers. Today, I would like to recognize a teacher from Jackson, Michigan that significantly influenced and motivated exceptional students in academics and leadership who were winners of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship.

J. Barry Weldon teaches Modern American History and Government at Morenci High School in Morenci. He is credited with instilling in students an enthusiasm for not only these subjects, but also for life. As one of his students, Rosanna Green said, Mr. Weldon is an amazing educator. In everything he teaches he adds excitement for learning. He also taught me important life lessons and influenced me to always try hard and be the best I possibly can be." The respect and gratitude of his students speaks well of Barry's ability to challenge young minds and encourage them to always put forth their best effort.

J. Barry Weldon's extraordinary work as a teacher has challenged and inspired countless students to move beyond the teenage tendency of superficial study and encourage them to foster deeper thought and connections to the real world. Arguably, no profession is more

important because of its daily influence upon the future leaders of our community and our country, and Barry's impact on his/her students is certainly worthy of recognition.

On behalf of the Congress of the United States of America, I am proud to extend our highest praise to J. Barry Weldon. We thank him for his continuing dedication to teaching and his willingness and ability to challenge and inspire students to strive for success.

RECOGNITION OF NADINE "DINEY"
GOLDSMITH, IN MEMORIAM

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Nadine "Diney" Goldsmith, an outstanding woman and community leader. As a business owner, artist, wife, mother, and advocate, Nadine Goldsmith was a great friend to the people of the Sixth District of New Jersey.

In life, Nadine Goldsmith served as a Foundation Trustee at Monmouth Medical Center, a hospital that serves a substantial population of the Sixth Congressional District. With her husband, she funded the creation of the Leon Hess Cancer Center's Goldsmith Wellness Center.

The Goldsmith Wellness Center provided innovative therapy to cancer patients, allowing them to unite their mental wellness with their physical healing. Nadine was never a bystander at her center: she worked closely with Smitha Gollamudi, M.D., Chair of the Institute for Advanced Radiation Oncology, to plan the center's program.

Mr. Speaker, Nadine Goldsmith has given so much to the people in my district. She dedicated her time, her talent, and character throughout her life. She has touched those blessed enough to meet her, and helped many she has never even met. Once again, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring this remarkable woman.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO TERRI
HAGEN

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Terri Hagen of Prineville, Oregon. Terri bravely battled the Storm King Mountain Fire outside the town of Glenwood Springs, Colorado in 1994, but succumbed to the blaze along with thirteen fellow firefighters while working to protect the City. I personally served as a firefighter and understand the risks they face each and everyday. Witnessing the awful inferno that fateful July day, I know Terri and her comrades battled the fire with the utmost courage and valor. With the tenth anniversary of the Storm King Fire approaching, I believe it appropriate to recognize the sacrifice Terri and the Storm King Firefighters made on behalf of a grateful community, state and nation.

Terri was an undergraduate student at Oregon State University working towards a Bachelor of Science degree in Entomology and a Bachelor of Arts in History. Their Department of Entomology now has a Terri Hagen Memorial Library and Scholarship. She was a member of the Onondaga tribe of the Iroquois Nation, and had answered her nation's call to duty, serving in the Army as a medic, and had completed airborne training with the National Guard. An avid outdoorswoman, Terri enjoyed horse training, mountain biking, hiking, hunting, basketball, teaching, swimming, and was a rodeo team roper. Her love of the outdoors and adventurous spirit took her to joining the Prineville Hotshots, an elite group of firefighters who specialize in wildland fire suppression. She was a dedicated member of her crew, and received a great deal of satisfaction from helping others. Above all, she was devoted to her family and friends.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise before this body of Congress and this nation to pay tribute to the life and memory of Firefighter Terri Hagen. Terri personified the Hotshots credo of Safety, Teamwork and Professionalism; putting herself in harms way for unfamiliar people and places. She made the ultimate sacrifice doing what she loved, and I, along with the Glenwood Springs community and the State of Colorado are eternally grateful to this brave young woman.

INTRODUCTION OF THE INTERNET
SPYWARE (I-SPY) PREVENTION
ACT

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Internet Spyware (I-SPY) Prevention Act. This important legislation will punish those that use software to break into consumers' computers to conduct nefarious activities.

Spyware is a growing and serious problem. The Federal Trade Commission has testified that "Spyware appears to be a new and rapidly growing practice that poses a risk of serious harm to consumers." Not only does Spyware provide the tools for criminals to crack into computers to commit crimes, but it can also provide the means to alter a computer's security settings or even take over the memory of a users' computer in order to send spam or conduct other despicable acts.

The I-Spy Prevention Act would impose criminal penalties on the most egregious behaviors associated with spyware. Specifically, this legislation would impose up to a five-year prison sentence on anyone who uses software to intentionally break into a computer and uses that software in furtherance of another federal crime. In addition, it would impose up to a two-year prison sentence on anyone who uses software to intentionally break into a computer and then either alters the computer's security settings, or obtains personal information with the intent to defraud or injure a person or with the intent to damage a computer. By imposing stiff penalties on these bad actors, this legislation will help deter the use of Spyware, and will thus help protect consumers from these aggressive attacks.

In addition, this legislation would not interfere with the ability of companies to continue to develop innovative technological solutions to block Spyware. Any successful solution to Spyware must consist of a combination of tough penalties for the really bad actors and innovative technologies to combat Spyware. This legislation leaves the door open for technology to continue to combat Spyware programs.

Mr. Speaker, criminal penalties are necessary to deter the proliferation of the most egregious behaviors associated with Spyware, and I urge each of my colleagues to support this important legislation.

TRIBUTE TO BISHOP HENRY
ALLEN BELIN, JR.

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Bishop Henry Allen Belin, Jr., one of eight legendary leaders of the African Methodist Episcopal Church (AME) who will be retiring at this year's Quadrennial Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana. A native of Louisiana, Bishop Belin is the son of Beatrice Boney Belin and Henry Allen Belin, Sr. His father was an active minister in the 8th Episcopal District for more than 60 years. He received his Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Theology degrees from Leland College in Baker, Louisiana and his Masters of Arts degree from the Lampton School of Religion in Jackson, Mississippi.

Bishop Belin pastored, remodeled, and built churches in both the 8th and 13th Episcopal Districts, including Payne Chapel in Nashville, Tennessee. He served as Presiding Elder in the 8th Episcopal District.

Prior to his elevation to the Bishopric, Bishop Belin was elected Secretary-Treasury of the AME Church Sunday School Union at the 1972 General Conference in Dallas, Texas. During his tenure, he bought land and built the new million dollar Publishing House Headquarters and remodeled the John Avery Apartment Complex. As publisher, he produced Cecil Cone's Identity in Crisis in Black Theology, George Champion's Pastor's Manual, volumes I and II, and Black Methodism's Basic Beliefs; George Sewell's Where Are You Going. He also produced Howard Gregg's The History of the AME Church, James Madison Granberry's The History of the AMEC Pension Department, and Robert H. Reid, Jr.'s Irony of African American History. In 1984, he finished one phase of his remarkable career when he published The AME Church Bicentennial Hymnal.

Bishop Belin was elected the 104th Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church at the 1984 General Conference in Kansas City, Missouri, and has presided over the 15th, 16th, 12th, 3rd, and 7th Episcopal Districts.

Bishop Belin is married to Lucinda Crawford Belin, and the couple has three children.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Bishop Henry Allen Belin, Jr. He has provided tremendous leadership for the AME Church and his long history of educational leadership and service will influence future generations for ages to come. AME founder Richard Allen would be deeply proud of his Episcopal descendent.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JON KELSO

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Jon Kelso of Prineville, Oregon. Jon bravely battled the Storm King Mountain Fire outside the town of Glenwood Springs, Colorado in 1994, but succumbed to the blaze along with thirteen fellow firefighters while working to protect the City. I personally served as a firefighter and understand the risks they face each and everyday. Witnessing the awful inferno that fateful July day, I know Jon and his comrades battled the fire with the utmost courage and valor. With the tenth anniversary of the Storm King Fire approaching, I believe it appropriate to recognize the sacrifice Jon and the Storm King Firefighters made on behalf of a grateful community, state and nation.

Born and raised in Prineville, Jon attended Crook County High School where he was very active in athletics as a member on the golf team, the manager of the football team, a swimming teacher, and a lifeguard. He received a degree in wildlife sciences from Oregon State University, and had completed his first year of studies to become a civil engineer. In 1985, he joined the Prineville Hotshots, an elite group of firefighters who specialize in wildland fire suppression. He was a smoke jumper and a squad boss for the sawyers, a skilled crew that cuts down trees to prevent the spread of fires. Recognizing Jon's excel-

lent academic record and leadership of his hotshot crew, the Bureau of Land Management Wildland Firefighter Academy named a Memorial Award after Jon that goes to the most outstanding firefighter of the class. He was a dedicated member of his crew, and received a great deal of satisfaction from helping others. Above all, he was devoted to his family and friends.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise before this body of Congress and this nation to pay tribute to the life and memory of Firefighter Jon Kelso. Jon personified the Hotshots credo of Safety, Teamwork, and Professionalism; putting himself in harms way for unfamiliar people and places. He made the ultimate sacrifice doing what he loved, and I, along with the Glenwood Springs community and the State of Colorado are eternally grateful to this brave young man.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF 2004
LEGRAND SMITH OUTSTANDING
TEACHER AWARD WINNER
KATHY RIZOR OF BATTLE
CREEK, MICHIGAN

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, education is the key to our Nation's future prosperity and security. The formidable responsibility of molding and inspiring young minds to the avenues of hope, opportunity and achieve-

ment partially rests in the hands of our teachers. Today, I would like to recognize a teacher from Battle Creek, Michigan that significantly influenced and motivated exceptional students in academics and leadership who were winners of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship.

Kathy Rizor teaches Advanced Biology at Harper Creek High School in Battle Creek. She is credited with instilling in students an enthusiasm for not only these subjects, but also for life. As one of her students, Renee Burdick said, "She encouraged me to excel in all aspects of my life ranging from academics to extracurricular activities. Not only did she facilitate the position of a great educator for me, but she served as a strong leader for my other classmates, Harper Creek and the greater Battle Creek community." The respect and gratitude of her students speak well of Kathy's ability to challenge young minds and encourage them to always put forth their best effort.

Kathy Rizor's extraordinary work as a teacher has challenged and inspired countless students to move beyond the teenage tendency of superficial study and encourage them to foster deeper thought and connections to the real world. Arguably, no profession is more important because of its daily influence upon the future leaders of our community and our country, and Kathy's impact on her students is certainly worthy of recognition.

On behalf of the Congress of the United States of America, I am proud to extend our highest praise to Kathy Rizor. We thank her for her continuing dedication to teaching and her willingness and ability to challenge and inspire students to strive for success.